Effect Determinations

The project biologist concludes the analysis presented in the BA by summarizing the findings for the effects analysis and generating an effect determination for each species (listed and proposed) and for all critical habitat (designated and proposed) potentially affected by the proposed project. Follow this link to access the Effect Determination section of the BA Form.

The federal action agency formally makes the effect determination by accepting the analysis, conclusions, and effect determination of the project biologist and forwarding the BA to the Services for review. The action agency may require revisions to the analysis before submitting the BA to the Services for concurrence. Three potential effect determinations may be made:

- No effect (NE)
- May affect, not likely to adversely affect (NLTAA)
- May affect, likely to adversely affect (LTAA).

An action that results in only beneficial effects on a particular species does not warrant a *no-effect* determination for that species. Such an action warrants a *may affect*, *not likely to adversely affect* determination and requires informal consultation.

A project typically has several different effect determinations, depending on the listed species and critical habitat affected (e.g., a NE determination for marbled murrelet and spotted owls, a NLTAA determination for bald eagle, and an LTAA determination for chinook salmon). See Effect Determination Guidance for more detailed information.